BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of)

WESTERN MOTOR TARIFF BUREAU, INC.

To Increase Rates and Charges on Behalf of Motor Carriers of Property Authorized to Operate in the Dump Truck Classification on the Island of Kauai, and Participating in WMTB's Dump Truck Tariff No. 2-B. WMTB Rate Notice No. 4323-2-B.

DOCKET NO. 02-0363

<u>ORDER NO. 19693</u>

Filed Oct. 3 , 2002

Chief Clerk of the Commission

ATTEST: A True Copy KAREN HIGASHI

Chief Clerk, Public Utilities Commission, State of Hawaii.

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WESTERN MOTOR TARIFF BUREAU, INC.)

To Increase Rates and Charges on Behalf of Motor Carriers of Property Authorized to Operate in the Dump Truck Classification on the Island of Kauai, and Participating in WMTB's Dump Truck Tariff No. 2-B.
WMTB Rate Notice No. 4323-2-B.

Docket No. 02-0363 Order No. 19693

ORDER

I.

On September 20, 2002, WESTERN MOTOR TARIFF BUREAU, INC. (WMTB) filed Rate Notice No. 4323-2-B, on behalf of motor carriers of property authorized to operate in the dump truck classification on the island of Kauai, and that participate in WMTB's Dump Truck Tariff No. 2-B. Specifically, WMTB seeks a six per cent across-the-board increase in its rates and charges for its Kauai-based member carriers that participate in WMTB's Dump Truck Tariff No. 2-B. WMTB supports its request with a cost study, dated September 20, 2002.

WMTB makes its request in accordance with Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) §§ 271-20 and 271-21. The proposed effective date of WMTB's tariff changes is October 21, 2002.

Copies of WMTB's rate notice and cost study were served on the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Division of Consumer Advocacy (Consumer Advocate).

Upon careful review and consideration, the commission is unable, at this time, to determine, among other things, the justness and reasonableness of the proposed increases in rates and charges. The commission, thus, will: (1) suspend the operation of Rate Notice No. 4323-2-B; (2) investigate the proposed changes pursuant to HRS § 271-20(e); and (3) name the Consumer Advocate as a necessary party to this docket.

III.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 1. The tariff changes proposed by WMTB in Rate Notice No. 4323-2-B are suspended for a period of up to five months from the proposed effective date, up to and including March 21, 2003, and placed under investigation.
- 2. WMTB shall file the appropriate tariff sheets to reflect the suspension ordered by the commission.
- 3. The Consumer Advocate shall be a party to this proceeding.
- 4. A scheduling conference will be held at the commission's office. The parties will be notified of the date and time of the conference.

DONE at Honolulu, Hawaii this 3rd day of October, 2002.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

By Wayne H. Kimura. Chairman

By Janet E. Kawelo, Commissioner

By Gregg W. Kinkley, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Michael Azama

Commission Counsel

43232B.sl

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served a copy of the foregoing Order No. 19693 upon the following parties, by causing a copy hereof to be mailed, postage prepaid, and properly addressed to each such party.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY P. O. Box 541 Honolulu, HI 96809

WESTERN MOTOR TARIFF BUREAU, INC. P. O. Box 30268 Honolulu, HI 96820

Catherine Sakato

DATED: October 3, 2002